

NOTIFICATION

Invitation to prepare for nomination and election of members of the Compliance Committees under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and under the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing

Dear Madam/Sir,

As you will recall, the terms of ten members out of the fifteen members of the Compliance Committee under the Cartagena Protocol and five members out of the fifteen members of the Compliance Committee under the Nagoya Protocol were due to end on 31 December 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting postponement of the tenth meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol (COP-MOP 10) and the fourth meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol (COP-MOP 4), no election of members of the respective Committees could take place before the expiry of their term. Accordingly, the terms of these members were extended twice and are now due to end on 31 December 2022.

In this regard, the term of all fifteen members of the Compliance Committee under the Cartagena Protocol, as well as the term of all fifteen members and the two observers from indigenous peoples and local communities of the Compliance Committee under the Nagoya Protocol are now expected to end on 31 December 2022.

When the Committees were first established, the terms of their members were staggered so that not all members were up for election at the same time. The staggering of terms helps to ensure a balance between new members and continuing members, thereby facilitating continuity in the consideration of matters by the respective Committees. In order to maintain the staggering of terms, it is proposed that, at their upcoming meetings, the respective COP-MOPs decide to extend for two years the terms of the five members of the Compliance Committee under the Cartagena Protocol, as well as the ten members of the Compliance Committee under the Nagoya Protocol, whose regular terms have not already been extended. The terms of these members would then end on 31 December 2024.

The respective COP-MOPs will therefore be invited to elect members to replace only the members whose terms had previously been extended, as mentioned above: two members per region to serve a four-year term on the Compliance Committee under the Cartagena Protocol and one member per region to serve a four-year term on the Compliance Committee under the Nagoya Protocol. The terms of the newly elected members would then end on 31 December 2026.

Indigenous peoples and local communities are also invited to make nominations of two observers to be elected by COP-MOP 4 for a full term of four years.

To: National Focal Points to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols, CBD National Focal Points (where CPB and ABS NFPs have not yet been designated), indigenous peoples and local communities and members of the Compliance Committees under the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols

It is my pleasure to invite regional groups to consult within their regions and to come to part two of COP-MOP 10 of the Cartagena Protocol and COP-MOP 4 of the Nagoya Protocol in Montreal, Canada, prepared to make nominations of suitable candidates for election to serve on the respective Compliance Committees for full four-year terms. Indigenous peoples and local communities are also invited to consult among themselves to come to part two of COP-MOP 4 of the Nagoya Protocol prepared to make nominations of two suitable candidates for election to serve as observers to the Compliance Committee under the Nagoya Protocol.

To facilitate consultations, a list of members whose terms will end on 31 December 2022 and whose positions are up for election is provided in the annex.

I kindly remind you that members and observers serve in the Compliance Committees in their personal capacity. In accordance with the respective procedures and mechanisms on compliance, nominees should have recognized competence as follows:

(a) Members of the Compliance Committee under the Cartagena Protocol “shall have recognized competence in the field of biosafety or other relevant fields, including legal or technical expertise”;

(b) Members of the Compliance Committee under the Nagoya Protocol as well as the representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities “shall have recognized competence, including technical, legal or scientific expertise in the fields covered by the Protocol, such as genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources”.

The names and curriculum vitae of nominees should be submitted to the Secretariat by e-mail to secretariat@cbd.int, as soon as possible following the opening of the meetings in Montreal.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Elizabeth Maruma Mrema
Executive Secretary

Enclosure

Annex

Members of the Compliance Committees under the Cartagena Protocol and under the Nagoya Protocol whose term will end on 31 December 2022

Members may serve up to two consecutive terms. The members listed in the table are eligible for re-election unless otherwise indicated.

		Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing
REGION	Africa	Mr. Rigobert Ntep	Mr. William Etim Okon
		Mr. Dorington O. Ogoyi	
	Asia-Pacific	Mr. Mohammad Ali Zarie Zare	Mr. Tianbao Qin
		<i>Vacant following resignation of Mr. Letchumanan Ramatha in 2021</i>	
	CEE	Ms. Dubravka Stepic (<i>has served two consecutive terms, not eligible for re-election</i>)	Ms. Elzbieta Martyniuk (<i>has served two consecutive terms, not eligible for re-election</i>)
		Ms. Shirin Karryeva	
	GRULAC	Ms. Jimena Nieto Carrasco (<i>has served two consecutive terms, not eligible for re-election</i>)	Ms. Teresa Dolores Cruz Sardiñas
		Mr. Malachy Dottin	
	WEOG	Mr. Andreas Heissenberger	Mr. Marcus Schröder
		Mr. Casper Linnestad	
IPLCs	<i>Not applicable</i>	Ms. Jennifer Tauli Corpuz	
	<i>Not applicable</i>	Ms. Yeshing Juliana Upún Yos	